

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 573

By Cobb C

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Tennessee Order of DeMolay upon the celebration of its 2009 Annual State Conclave.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those organizations that exist for the sole purpose of enriching the lives of young people; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary group is the Tennessee Order of DeMolay, a youth organization for young men between the ages of 12 and 21 that offers a variety of well-rounded, positive activities that promote character enhancement and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, founded by Dad Frank S. Land in 1919, Order of DeMolay International has since provided young men with the guidance and skills they need to be productive men and valued citizens; the Order teaches essential organizational, professional, and leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, DeMolay bases its teachings on the timeless virtues of filial love, reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanness, and patriotism; and

WHEREAS, the organization took its name from Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar who was loyal to his comrades and faithful to his beliefs, even in the face of cruel extortion from others; and

WHEREAS, some of the more prominent men who have benefited from the organization include Walt Disney, John Goodnow, Buzz Aldrin, John Wayne, Fran Tarkenton, and Buddy Ebsen, among more than a million other Order of DeMolay men in tens of thousands of communities who have become pioneers in their occupations and society; and

WHEREAS, DeMolay is supported by adult advisors who provide guidance, friendship, and assistance to the young men as they plan and conduct their events and activities; business meetings are led entirely by the young men in the organization; and

WHEREAS, the Order of DeMolay is active in community service projects on the local, state, and international levels and is committed to the stewardship of families and communities across the globe; and

WHEREAS, an international fraternity that exists in thirteen countries, the Order of DeMolay will celebrate its ninetieth anniversary this year at the birthplace and headquarters of DeMolay International in Kansas City, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Order of DeMolay will be hosting its sixty-ninth Annual State Conclave from July 9 through July 12, 2009, at the Al Menah Shrine Center in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, the Order of DeMolay is an incredibly valuable organization that works assiduously to better the lives of the young men in this great State, this nation, and the world, and the Tennessee Order of DeMolay should be specially recognized; now ,therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the Tennessee Order of DeMolay for its unwavering commitment to equipping the youth of today with the skills and virtues necessary for them to develop into the successful men and leaders of tomorrow.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.